

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Michigan House of Representatives Education Committee

From: Jim Holcomb, Senior Vice President Michigan Chamber of Commerce

Subject: Charter School Expansion (SB 618)

Date: November 1, 2011

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce strongly supports passage of SB 618 which would modernize the Revised School Code to empower parents with the ability to better self direct what educational opportunities are right for their child. Specifically, SB 618 is drafted to remove several arbitrary constraints placed on public school academies, urban high school academies and schools of excellence. The current law unfortunately limits opportunities for many children and their families to pursue several options that would better their educational development.

On behalf of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce we ask that you please support this important reform and ensure that parents and children across Michigan are afforded every opportunity to pursue the education they need.

Please call me at 517-371-2100 if you have any questions.